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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 /028 R

DRAFTED Y RMCDONNELL/EWTB/ITP/FAS
APPROVED BY EUR/EE - NGANDREWS
AGRIC. BESHOAR, FAS/ITP/TOD
FRASER, FAS/ITP
HUME, FAS
BROWN, FAS/AO
WEBB, FAS/FCA
MINYARD, FAS/FMD
ED PENSIVY APHIS
CHRISLER, ERS/FDCD
HAINES, ARS/IPD
HARRIS, CSRS
STATE: CHRISTNESEN, EUR/EE
COMMERCE: PORTER, BEWT
TREASURY: RENDALL (INFO)
J. RAE (INFO)
AGRIC:BEVIS
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R 311942Z DEC 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: NA

SUBJECT: U.S.-ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

REF: A. BUCHAREST 6073 B. BUCHAREST 6110 C. STATE 202205

1. OFFICIALS FROM FIVE USDA AGENCIES--AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE (ARS), COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH SERVICE (CSRS), ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE (ERS), FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE (FAS) AND ANIMAL PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS) MET DECEMBER 17
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TO DISCUSS JANUARY VISIT OF ROMANIAN AGRICULTURALISTS. AS

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AGREED DURING NOVEMBER VISIT OF SECRETARY BUTZ (REFS A AND B), JANUARY MEETING WILL BE FIRST SESSION OF U.S.-ROMANIAN JOINT WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND COOPERATION. PURPOSE OF THIS FIRST MEETING WILL BE TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF TWO PROTOCOLS SIGNED SEPTEMBER 11, 1975.

2. ON BASIS OF DECEMBER 15 MEETING IN USDA WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR JOINT WORKING GROUP:

--WG WILL MEET IN WASHINGTON JANUARY 26-27 AND COULD EXTEND TO JANUARY 28 SHOULD NEED ARISE.

-- WG PARTICIPANTS WILL BE AT WORKING LEVEL AND WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL COOPERATION IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS.

-- WG WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO DISTINCT SECTIONS: ONE WILL DEAL WITH COOPERATION PROTOCOL, THE OTHER WILL FOCUS ON THE TRADE PROTOCOL. ACTIVITIES UNDER THE COOPERATION PROTOCOL WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ARS AND, TO THE EXTENT NEEDED, CSRS. APHIS WILL PARTICIPATE IN WG AND WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ANIMAL AND PLANT REGULATORY AND CONTROL PROGRAMS IF ROMANIANS WISH. COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES UNDER THE TRADE PROTOCOL, INCLUDING THE DATA EXCHANGE, WILL BE HANDLED BY ERS AND FAS.

3. U.S. SIDE OF WG WILL CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF FIVE AGENCIES MENTIONED PARA 1 AT DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR LEVEL OR BELOW. WE WILL BE PREPARED TO BRING IN ADDITIONAL PEOPLE DEPENDING ON SPECIFIC ROMANIAN INTERESTS.

4. ON R&T SIDE, U.S. WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MODEST LEVELS OF COOPERATION IN EACH OF THE FIVE AREAS INCLUDED IN ANNEX TO PROTOCOL. SUCH COOPERATION WILL BE IN FORM OF EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION, PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH FEQUESTS AND RESEARCH MATERIALS. AS AGREED BY SECRETARY BUTZ AND MINISTER MICULESCU, WE WILL WANT TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION IN GREATER DEPTH IN ONE OR TWO AREAS. WE SUGGEST SUNFLOWERS AND SUGAR BEETS. IN COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES STRESS WILL BE PLACED ON USING EXISTING CHANNELS RATHER THAN ESTABLISHING NEW MECHANISM TO OVERSEE US-ROMANIAN COOPERATIVE PROGRAM. AS EXPLAINED REF A, PARA 2, WE WILL RPT NOT BE IN POSITION TO IM-
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PLEMENT ROMANIAN MEMORANDA WITH U.S. UNIVERSITIES, WHICH IS SEPARATE FROM COOPERATION WITH USDA. CSRS REPRESENTATIVE IS FAMILAR WITH PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN GOR AND UNIVERSITIES AND WILL BE ABLE TO ADVISE ON DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION UNDER US-ROMANIAN PROTOCOL SO AS TO AVOID OVERLAPS.

5 UNDER TRADE PROTOCOL, U.S. SIDE WILL WANT TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DATE EXCHANGE AND WILL SPECIFY KINDS OF DATA WE EXPECT TO

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RECEIVE FROM GOR. U.S REAUEST LIST WILL BE VERY SIMILAR TO LIST HANDED OVER TO ROMANIANS DURING NEGOTIATION OF TRADE PROTOCOL AND TO STEFAN BURCA LAST JUNE. AT SAME TIME U.S. WILL BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO ROMANIAN DATA REQUESTS. USDA EXPECTS TO RECEIVE LIST OF IMPORT ESTIMATES PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE II OF THE TRADE PROTOCOL. PROTOCOL STATES THAT SUCH ESTIMATES ARE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO U.S. BY NOVEMBER OF EACH YEAR. FAS WILL ALSO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROSPECTS AS WELL AS ANY AGRICULTURAL TRADE ISSUES THAT MAY ARISE. ROMANIAN DELEGATE FOR DUSCUSSION OF ECONOMIC DATA MATTERS SHOULD HAVE BROAD FAMILARITY WITH ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL AND FOREIGN TRADE DATA SYSTEMS AND HAVE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE FIRM LIST OF ITEMS ON DATA EXCHANGE.

6. AS BECAME EVIDENT DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO THE AREA, SECRETARY BUTZ SEES GREAT POTENTIAL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN EASTERN EUROPE AND IS INTERESTED IN EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S.PARTICIPATION IN THIS DEVELOPMENT. WE BELIEVE WG WOULD BE IDEAL OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF AGRIBUSINESS COOPERATION WITH GOR. EMBASSY SHOULD SOLICIT SPECIFIC GOR AGRIBUSINESS INTERESTS AND, INDOING SO, SHOULD DRAW UPON REF C IN MAKING DISTINCTION ON DIVISION OF LABOR BETWEEN USDA AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IN FIELD OF AGRIBUSINESS COOPERATION. DEPENDING ON ROMANIAN INTERESTS WE WILL BE PREPARED TO BRING IN REPRESENTATIVES FROM USDA, COMMERCE, OR OTHER USG AGENCIES AS APPROPRIATE.

7. EMBASSY SHOULD CONVEY ABOVE AS PROPOSED SCENARIO FOR JANUARY WG MEETING. USDA WOULD APPRECIATE PROMPT REPORT OF ROMANIAN REACTION TO THIS SCENARIO. ROBINSON

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